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ALMA, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 10, 1916

WHOLE NUMBER 1951

SPECIAL ELECTION IS AUGUST 29TH

Proposition to Bond City for
\$100,000 to be Submitted
to Voters Primary Day.

DATE WAS SET BY COUNCIL

\$60,000 for Pumping Station and
Mains and \$40,000 for
Better Sewage

After a four hour session on Tuesday evening of this week, the common council of the city of Alma passed resolutions to submit to the voters of Alma, the bonding proposition which has been agitated of late, on the same date as the primary election will be held, August 29th. At this time the voters of the city will have the opportunity of expressing themselves on the matter of bonding the city for \$100,000 for sewer and water main extensions and for a pumping station.

The final meeting of the council which settled definitely that the proposition should be submitted to the voters of the city, was a quiet meeting, there being no long discussions upon the subject, these having come at the previous meeting, but there was an earnest discussion of the question, especially in how the people of the city could be made to see the absolute necessity for such action; its effect on the city in case the vote on the subject is favorable; and the effect that the turning down by the voters would have on the growing and bustling city of Alma.

That the city council feels that the question is one of prime importance has been made manifest through its action in drafting the resolutions to submit the proposition to a vote. The council knows, as does Mayor McKinney, that many improvements along these lines must be made at once. The fact that Pine River has been closed to bathers by the health department of the city, shows that the water from the river is unfitted for use around the home, and that its continued use is most dangerous to the health of the entire community of Alma. Proper sewerage is also a most important item in the health bill of any city, and without the expenditure of a large sum of money the city of Alma cannot properly take care of its sewerage. Without health we are without wealth, so to speak. Having the former, Alma can have the latter. It is strictly up to the voters. The city council and Mayor McKinney have done the best that they could in the matter. They have kept the sum as small as possible in view of the work to be done, and feel with many others that the entire city should be behind the proposition election day.

The resolution as adopted calls for the bonding for \$60,000 for the proposed pumping station, for pure water from the earth, and for the extension of the water mains. It also calls for the bonding for \$40,000 for the extension sewerage system of the city.

It is not the intention of the mayor and council to issue the bonds and sell them all at once should the proposition carry, but to issue them and sell them just as the money is needed for the work, in order that the city may save every possible cent of interest on them. Another feature that speaks well for the mayor and council, is the fact that they have placed the special election for primary day, in order that some of the extra expense of a special election may be saved to the city tax payers. They have been considerate with the city's money, so far, and careful in these small matters, the voters can rest assured that they are being just as careful in this large one; that Alma needs the money badly for improvements and that it must have it. The matter of Park and Library which had been proposed will not be included in the bond.

Mr. Voter think the matter over seriously before going to the polls and rejecting this proposition. Think it over, then go and vote for it.

MOODY REUNION

On Wednesday of next week the pupils taught by Silas Moody back in the days of early Gratiot in 1862 and '63, will hold their annual reunion with their old teacher and instructor at the home of Henry Davison in St. Louis.

During the morning the hours will be spent in the enjoyment of a good social time, which will be followed at noon by a basket dinner. Following is the program for the afternoon meeting.

Music.....By All
Prayer.....Rev. Ford
Secretary's report
Reading of letters from those unable to be present.
Music.....By All
School Work.....Mrs. Ford
School song
Experiences of a Teacher.....M. E. Hull
Music.....Mrs. Yerrington
Address—"Why Are We Here?".....J. C. Meese
Address, Baptist minister of St. Louis
Song.....Rev. J. W. Priest
Election of Officers
Closing song—"God Be With You Till We Meet Again."

TWO DEAD FROM PTOMAINÉ

William Thomas and William Freeze
Ate Poisoned Food, Recently

Wm. Thomas and Wm. Freeze, the former a farmer living near Forest Hill and the latter a hired man on the Thomas farm, are dead as the result of eating poisoned meat, it is said. It seems that Mrs. Thomas has been in Lansing for sometime caring for a sick sister, and that Thomas and Freeze were keeping house, and working the farm. At this time they were buying their foodstuffs in Shepherd. Two weeks ago they made a trip to Shepherd and bought provisions and returned home, where both ate some meat which they had purchased.

Both were taken sick about the same time, and both went from bad to worse, although Freeze seemed to stand the poisoning better than did Thomas, probably from the fact that he had eaten less of the meat than had his employer. After a week's sickness Thomas died, and was buried a week ago last Friday. Freeze gradually grew worse and on Sunday he also passed away. He was buried on Tuesday afternoon of this week.

Both men were strong and had apparently been in fine health until after they had eaten following their return home from Shepherd. Both men were in the forties, and nearing the half-century mark in age. A collection was taken up among the farmers of that section of the county for a fund with which to bury Freeze, who was single.

ALGER WOOD WILL TAKE COLLEGE COACHING JOB

Alma Boy Will Have Charge of
All Doane College, Nebraska
Athletic Teams

Alger Wood, former Alma college athletic star, signed a contract with the authorities of Doane college, Crete, Nebraska, Friday, and will have supervision of the athletics of the institution. Coach Wood will commence his work about the middle of September. Wood was contracted with Hastings high school for the ensuing year, but the Hastings people, appreciating the opportunity that a western college offered, released him from the obligation. Doane college is an institution in numbers about in a class with Alma college, and has a reputation for turning out some of the best teams in the west.



"PUG" WOOD

Wood has had one year in the coaching game. He was at Fenton last year and although he had a hard proposition to face owing to the graduation of several of the previous year's athletes he produced teams that won in spite of this heavy handicap. He was hired by the Hastings people at a large increase of salary after he was recommended by some of the most prominent athletic critics in the state. During the summer he attended the coaching school of the University of Illinois, where he studied under Huff, Zepke and Jones.

Wood first began to show calibre when he was freshman back in Alma high. In that school he was a big factor in all departments of athletics during his course, but starred especially on the gridiron, diamond and basketball floor. He graduated from high school in 1911 and immediately Alma college made a bid for him. His athletic ability developed fast following his entrance into faster circles and for four years he occupied a conspicuous place in athletics in the institution and throughout the state. For three years he was considered the most consistent ground gainer in the state on the football field and three times was chosen all-state back field man. His ability in baseball, basketball and track is just as marked. Doane college has got a coach that knows athletics and how to handle men.

Wood is the son of Rev. and Mrs. C. L. Wood of this city.

STILL ANOTHER SUBDIVISION

Oak Grove, a twelve acre subdivision on East Superior street, owned by Dr. J. F. Suydam, has been platted, trees planted and is now on the market awaiting purchasers. The new subdivision is just west of the DeRushia farm and south of Superior St. This makes the sixth subdivision so far this year, and it is said that there will be others coming soon.

ALMA TO BE 12,000 IN TEN YEARS

Allen D. Albert, City Expert, Says Conditions Indicate Increase.

PURE WATER SYSTEM NEEDED

Business Men Should Advertise
More—Local Trade Territory Too Small

The citizens of Alma saw themselves as others see them last Thursday evening when Allen D. Albert, president of the Rotary Club of America and a city expert, discussed the personality of Alma. Mr. Albert did not mince matters, but gave a straight from the shoulder talk on the conditions of the city. During his address he touched practically every phase of the city's development. Praise was given for some things, but on the other hand Mr. Albert found many things that should be changed. Mr. Albert arrived in the city early Thursday morning and during the day a complete survey of the city's life. The statistics that were gathered during the day gave Mr. Albert his material for his lecture in the evening.

Mr. Albert said in part: "One of the first things that impressed me in going about the city was the lack of co-operation among the business men. At present there are two business men's organizations in the city. The Board of Trade is the oldest and the most logical one for the support of every citizen. There can be no great increase in business or in the field from which this city draws its country trade as long as there is the lightest lack of co-operation in the business section. The Board of Trade should raise its dues to \$25.00 a year because no organization of this nature can accomplish much on as low an annual payment as the local board has. As long as the business men fail to co-operate they can not hope to compete with the surrounding cities."

"The business men in Alma evidently do not see the advantage of systematic advertising. This is shown by the fact that the city draws its patronage from so small a radius. This radius has got to be widened and the only methods that can bring this around are found in advertising. Alma is too much interested locally and she is forgetting to take care of the territory around her. You have made wonderful strides in the past few years, but don't let yourself become too self-satisfied."

"The statistics that I found regarding the school system in the city indicate that you have an educational system of which you should be proud. There are some things that should be altered and altered immediately, however. The high school building is a fine structure and is modern in every way. The other two buildings are in a condition that demands immediate attention. There are worse fire traps, perhaps, but I haven't found them yet on my summer trip. The only merit the buildings have is that they keep out the cold and the rain. The salaries of the teachers in your city are too low. The average wage should be increased so these teachers could consider themselves out of the philanthropic class."

Mr. Albert took occasion to compliment the city on the Civic League and the work it has done during the few years it has been organized. "I have been in no city this summer where I have found a league that has done as much for any city as the Alma league. When I stepped off the train I noticed the beautiful bower at the station and knew immediately there was a league in the city, and I kept my eyes open for results. If you don't know what the league has done it is time you should observe."

"The lack of facilities for play is noticeable. You have two parks, but outside of that nothing has been done along recreation lines. Both parks are in a terrible condition and I thought when I first viewed Wright Park that I was looking at a well kept wood lot. An adequate amount of money should be expended on the parks in the city to put them in the proper condition to be called parks and in addition to that play grounds should be established where the children can play and be safe."

"Alma should prepare for a population of 12,000 in less than ten years. In order to take care of this increase there has got to be expended on improvements in the city considerable money. Your sewerage system has got to be increased; you should have a pure water system installed; the city has got to expend money on parks and recreation; a public library should be built by the city and Alma should commence immediately a campaign against disease by cleaning up every section of the city."

CITY DIRECTORY

The City Directory issued by the Record and compiled by C. E. Pettyjohn is completed and is ready for delivery. Parties wishing copies may find them at this office. Price 75 cents.

WILL TAKE CRISP'S PLACE

M. R. Kimball of Albion Will Have
Charge of Commercial Dept.

M. R. Kimball, who has had charge of the commercial department in the high school at Albion, Michigan, for the past two years, has been secured as the successor to Glen Crisp, who resigned two weeks ago as head of the same department in the local high school. Mr. Kimball is also an athletic coach.

While at Albion high school Mr. Kimball had fine success with his base ball and football teams, and is highly rated as a coach in these two branches of sports. His baseball team last spring was rated among the best in the state. Mr. Kimball will have charge of the coaching in the local high school for these sports and probably for basketball also, although he does not claim to be a coach in the winter sport.

REPUBLIC TRUCKS

BOOSTED HIGHLY

Member of Engineering Corporation
Praises the Trucks
of Standard Units

J. C. Ayers of the Towar-Ayers company, a Detroit traffic engineering corporation, which is known the country over recently had the following to say regarding standard trucks, taking the Republic truck as an example: "The records of several successful factories have proved beyond question that the intelligent use of standardized units is the answer to the efficient manufacture of trucks. As a matter of fact, given sufficient capital, a factory and competent labor, any buyer can today build a good motor truck by the use of the respective units made by several successful manufacturing specialists."

"The difference between pronounced success and mediocre achievement in putting on the market a truck built of standardized units is simply a case of comparative efficiency in organization. The factory that is planned with the greater amount of preparedness to meet all conditions of the market and manufacturing will naturally realize the greater amount of success."

"I know of no better illustration of this condition than the history of the Republic Motor Truck Co., at Alma, F. W. Ruggles, vice president and general manager, and his associates had the broad vision of a big truck industry on the basis of standardized units. Behind it of course was the individuality of design, namely that of a strong, light, economical and accessible truck made in a series of models to meet the general conditions of business and of hauling. Mr. Ruggles and his associates on account of their great volume of business they realized that manufacturers of separate units could sell at a lower margin of profit and that through the use of these standardized units the truck manufacturers could in turn produce a truck for less money than if he had built all of his own parts. Ruggles particularly realized this fact because he had been building trucks from the early days of the industry and had followed its course through every phase of its manufacturing development."

"To show how thoroughly Ruggles and his associates prepared, they sold an entire community on this idea and today practically the entire city of Alma centers its development and interest around the progress of the Republic plant. A series of factories, planned exclusively for motor trucks have been built for the most efficient application of standardized units. Carrying out the idea of preparedness over a long period, the Republic company has been protecting itself by making their material contracts for years ahead—in some important instances they have bought as far as three years in advance."

"The success of this idea is shown in the 500 per cent increase in production in one year; in the fact that the Republic company is now putting out the greatest volume of any plant exclusively devoted to the manufacture of motor trucks; and that the credit agencies have three times during the past year increased its business rating."

ASSOCIATION MEETING

The Alma Lawn Tennis association will hold its annual tournament during the week beginning Monday, Aug. 21st. The tournament will consist of men's singles, men's doubles, women's singles, women's doubles and mixed doubles. The entrance fee of 50 cents will entitle one to compete in any or all of these events. Prizes will be awarded to the successful contestants. All tennis players are urged to enter the tournament. Mr. Hira Moore, cashier of the Alma State Savings Bank, is treasurer of the Lawn Tennis association and entrance fees should be paid to him.

GOOD CONTRACT

The Home Lumber & Fuel Co. have been awarded the contract for the material for the new Republic Truck Co. building being erected on Superior Street east. This speaks well for this enterprising firm as it is one of the largest contracts ever let for building material in this county. It should convince those anticipating building that before they buy out side they should consult our home institutions.

BLEAMASTER TO LEAVE COLLEGE

Resigned this Week as Coach
and Will Go to University
of Idaho.

ALMA COACH FOR FOUR YEARS

No Successor Has Been Secured
But Harry Helmer of Mt.
Pleasant is Favored

Athletic director, W. C. Bleamaster, of Alma college, who has directed the athletic teams of the Maroon and Cream institution for the past four years has resigned his position as coach at Alma college, and has accepted a far better position in the far west. The Alma Mentor will coach the football teams of the University of Idaho, at a salary much greater than that which he has been receiving at Alma college.

Bleamaster came to Alma college four years ago from Carroll college, Wisconsin, where he had made a splendid record as an athletic coach. His first year at Alma college was perhaps his best from an athletic point of view, as during that year two championships came to Alma, one with the most famous football team that the smaller colleges of Michigan have ever had, and the other in track. Bleamaster giving Alma her first Michigan Intercollegiate track team. Alma college was also runner up for the baseball championship during this year.

The second year at Alma, two more championships came Alma's way, one in baseball and one in track, with Alma as the runner up in the football championship race.

Two years ago Alma was forced to be satisfied with but one championship, this coming to Alma college in track, when Alma established a high scoring record, besides making several track records, which bid fair to stand for years. Runner up in baseball and basketball was the best done in these other two sports this year.

During the college year just closed Bleamaster's successes were not up to those of past years through poorer material, but still Alma tied for the football championship and was runner up for the baseball and track championships.



COACH W. C. BLEAMASTER

The fact that six colleges are chasing these titles each athletic season means that it is a hard proposition to get one, and that the college getting more than one is getting more than its just share, and under Bleamaster that has been done. Alma has obtained more championships during the past four years than any other college in the Michigan Intercollegiate, with the one exception of Kalamazoo college, which has won the same number.

Just who Bleamaster's successor at Alma college will be is still a question, but on every hand the name of Harry Helmer, coach at the Mt. Pleasant Normal is heard in connection with the position, and there seems to be small question, but what strong efforts will be made to secure the services of the former Alma college athletic star, who has been making a name for himself as a coach and athletic director in the Normalite city. It is a good time for everyone to get behind and work if they desire to see Helmer succeed Bleamaster.

BUY MILLINERY STOCK

Mrs. Henry Miner and Mrs. Frank Bennett have purchased the millinery stock of Mrs. Cook located at the corner of East Superior street and Woodward avenue. The new proprietresses will take over the store soon and will be ready with a brand new stock for the fall opening. Both are well and favorably known and they are sure to succeed in their new venture.

\$20.00 REWARD

Twenty dollars reward for information leading to conviction of party who pulled the slash-boards from our State street dam and let the water out, Wednesday night, the 9th inst. Alma Grain & Lumber Co.

WORK TO START SOON

\$25,000 Bill be Spent on New Freight
House for Pere Marquette

Work on the new warehouse for the freight department of the Pere Marquette railroad in this city will commence sometime during the first of the month according to a statement issued by local freight authorities. The building will be constructed of wood and will be 154 feet long and 40 feet wide. The front of the building facing State street will be two stories with the offices located in the second story in a 40 by 40 modern office room. The structure will cost in the neighborhood of \$25,000. It is the plan of the railroad company to remove the present freight house and build the new one a few rods north of the present location. This will allow additional tracks and additional loading docks which the company are compelled to install owing to the growth of business during the past few years. Contractors in the city are bidding on the building now and the company will probably announce the builder next week.

MORE SIDE TRACK

The P. M. and A. A. railroads have just completed their new side track on to the Republic Truck Co. property. This gives the Truck Co. their own tracks for loading and unloading and will assist materially in relieving the congested condition that has existed for some time.

ALMA HIGH HAS LONG AND HARD SCHEDULE

Captain Campbell Will Have
Nine Men Back When Football
Season Starts

The football schedule for Alma high school was announced this week. The schedule is the longest and most strenuous one that a local high aggregation has ever faced and will demand some exceptionally good playing to carry it through the season successfully. The opening game is on September 30 with St. Louis on the local gridiron. The season closes with Belding on November 3.

Alma high football squad promises to contain some excellent football material this season. Graduation of several players left big holes in the lineup, but with the old men who are back coupled with the recruits that will enter the school this fall indications are that the school will have a winning team. Captain Campbell will be back at the pivot position and will lead the following men onto the field the first day of practice: Kress, Greenough, Howell, Sartor, Willett, Boyd, Smith, Emery and Richards. New equipment has already been purchased for this year's team.

The schedule for 1916, follows: Sept. 30, St. Louis; here; Oct. 4, St. Louis; there; Oct. 7, Owosso; here; Oct. 10, Mt. Pleasant Normal; there; Oct. 13, Big Rapids; there; Oct. 17, Ethaca; there; Oct. 21, Arthur Hill; there; Oct. 27, Mt. Pleasant; here; Nov. 3, Belding; there.

ALMA BIRD CLUB

Harold Baynes Increases Interest in
Alma Bird Club

The presence of Harold Baynes in the city last week aroused so much enthusiasm that the Alma Bird Club, which was organized two years ago, was re-organized Saturday evening. The following officers were unanimously elected at the Chautauqua tent, Saturday evening. The following officers were elected: President, Francis King; vice presidents, J. T. Ewing, H. C. Moore, Mrs. W. A. Bahlke; secretary, Miss Sadie Messenger; treasurer, Bertha McLaren; general manager, H. M. McCurdy.

The appeal made by Mr. Baynes on the evening of the Bird Masque for members to join the Alma Bird Club resulted in adding 140 members. This with the members already active will give a membership of over 200. That is about half as many as there are in Alma who should be members, and are really ready to join. Lists will be found at either the First State Bank or at the Alma State Savings Bank and at Mr. Murphy's Drug Store and any one wishing to join may do so at any time by calling for membership. Miss Bertha McLaren is the treasurer and will receive the nominal dues directly or through any one of the places mentioned above.

Any one who heard Mr. Baynes will know why the birds need the help that we can give them in order that they may not be crowded out by the changes in the country by modern life. We must come to actively helping them or they will leave, and the insect world will make it harder and harder to carry on agricultural and fruit growing successfully. There are plenty of other reasons for saving them besides the purely commercial. Remember that if you do not do your share or do nothing at all, it will mean loss that simply can not be estimated.

RESIGNS, TAKES DRAY LINE

Clyde W. Campbell, who has been acting as baggage man at the union depot for the past ten years, has resigned his position with the railroads, and is now in charge of the V. F. Bamber dray line. Either party may be reached by phone, or orders may be left with the Record.

CLAUSSEN RECITAL CLOSES PROGRAM

Excellent Concert by Julia
Clausen and Assisting
Artists Monday Eve.

CHAUTAUQUA AGAIN NEXT YEAR

Contracts Signed for Return of
Redpath Entertainments
Again in 1917

Alma's fourth chautauqua came to a fitting close Monday evening with a wonderful recital by Mme Julia Clausen, prima donna contralto of the Chicago Grand Opera Company, assisted by Pierre Henrotte, violinist, and Marcel Charlier, pianist. As had been anticipated all the week this recital was the big musical treat of the program and was enjoyed by a packed tent. Mme Clausen responded very graciously to repeated calls for encores by the enthusiastic audience.

Julia Clausen possesses a beautiful contralto voice, sweet, clear and of wide range. She is versatile in her selections and gives both difficult operatic arias and simple popular melodies, and is equally at home in both. Among her delightful numbers on the program were "Frühlingslaube" by Schubert; "Elegie" by Massenet, with violin obligato; aria from "La Reine de Saba" by Gounod; "Cradle Song" by Alexander McPayden; "What's in the Air Today" by Robert Eden and "A Perfect Day."

Mr. Henrotte captivated the audience by his masterful playing on the violin. Among his selections were "Concerto in E Minor" by Mendelssohn; "Souvenir" by Drdia; "Menuet" by Beethoven; "Rondino" by Kreisler. Mr. Charlier at the piano added much to the success of the concert by his skillful accompaniments.

With their usual thoughtfulness, the ladies of the Civic League gave Madame Clausen a fitting floral welcome. The chautauqua platform was tastefully decorated with gladioli, pinks and ferns and a charming bouquet of sweet peas and gypsophila was sent up to the great singer herself. Miss Mary Sharp, Mrs. Wilcox, Misses Sadie and Leontine Messenger and Margaret Moore were the committee.

The chautauqua was made a certainty for the season of 1917 Saturday afternoon when a contract was signed with the Redpath Chautauqua Bureau by Charles Rhodes, C. F. Brown and H. C. Moore, who were appointed by a representative body of citizens to act as a committee. Monday evening at the chautauqua tent an opportunity was given for an expression of opinion and the enthusiasm with which the great audience responded showed conclusively that Alma wants the chautauqua as a permanent thing.

As so early a date as this it is impossible to state exactly what the nature of next season's program will be. Manager H. P. Harrison making no statements regarding the chautauqua for 1917 he inferred that if his plans worked out satisfactorily the Redpath bureau will place a program before the people that will out shine this year's program in every particular. The fact that Mr. Harrison was so positive in his statements and that he is known as one of the best chautauqua managers in the country is sufficient proof that Alma will have a most enjoyable chautauqua in the summer of 1917.

The crowds that thronged the chautauqua tent at practically every session show what the chautauqua spirit has accomplished in the city during the past four summers. The largest crowd, of course, was on Bryan night, when the tent was packed to the eaves and standing room outside was at a premium. The lecture by Mr. Albert on Thursday night drew a big hearing. The morning and afternoon programs were largely attended. The morning hour meetings are becoming very popular with all classes of chautauqua goers. Many of business men make regular trips to the tent in the morning to hear Dr. Wenger and were nightly interested in what he had to bring to them. All this indicates that Alma is demonstrating the real chautauqua spirit, and she is among the first in the state to do so.

SECURES GOOD POSITION

Thomas Blaisdell, Jr., son of ex-president Thomas C. Blaisdell of Alma college, has accepted a position as instructor in languages at Ewing college, Hailshabud, India. He expects to leave very soon for the far east to take up his new work.

Mr. Blaisdell was a student at M. A. C. at Lansing, at Alma college and at Penn State university in this country, and a couple years ago spent a year in Germany in study in preparing for his chosen work. He returned home from Germany just before the war broke out.

GARBAGE

To be sure that your garbage is collected place the can either at the alley end of your property or in plain sight from the alley.